

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 269

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to recognize Conley Jones on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Conley Jones, chief of the West Carter County Volunteer Fire Department, is one such estimable person, who has served with distinction for more than forty-four years as a dedicated member of the volunteer fire department; and

WHEREAS, Chief Jones will soon embark upon a much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Conley Jones first joined the West Carter County Volunteer Fire Department as one of its charter members in 1970, and he joined his brethren in responding to their first fire in March of 1971; and

WHEREAS, in June of 1971, Mr. Jones gained promotion to become the department's second chief, a position he held for the next forty-four years. Throughout those years, Chief Jones did everything necessary to help preserve and promote the department, including painting cars and selling firewood to raise money, serving more than 1,800 duty nights at the station, responding to more than 10,000 calls, helping his department become the first in the county to obtain a lower ISO rating in 1990, working to increase the funding for the county's volunteer fire departments from \$3,500 to \$45,000 annually, and overseeing improvements to equipment and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the West Carter County Volunteer Fire Department has grown since Chief Jones took the helm. Its first station was built in 1974 and is now a modern facility that is home to more than \$2 million in equipment and the department's 2007 Sutphen Custom Pumper, a

vehicle vastly superior to the 1953 Ford that served as the department's first response vehicle;
and

WHEREAS, Conley Jones has long been an active member of his profession, and was one of the original founders and a former president of the Carter County Volunteer Firefighters Association; and

WHEREAS, Chief Jones exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Conley Jones has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and the citizens of Carter County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Conley Jones our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.